

In the Specification

Please replace the Abstract beginning on page 56 with the following amended Abstract:

Abstract

A device is disclosed for introducing a suture wire through tissue of a subject. The device may include a proximal and a distal end, and a drive mechanism to advance suture wire toward the distal end such that the suture wire may exit from the device with force sufficient to pass through the tissue. The device may include a first curved die at the distal end to impart a looping configuration to portions of the suture wire exiting the device, and a second curved die at the distal end to receive the looped suture wire as it returns toward the device. A cutter may be included to cut the looped suture wire from wire remaining in the device. The cutter may deform both of the leading end and the trailing end of the looped suture wire so that both ends are directed toward the subject being sutured.